

Fort Lee 7th Month 18

My Dear Anna

I feel that I must begin this letter by telling thee that thine of the 2^d ult. was not received for several weeks after it was written, in consequence of our having gone to Manlius to visit our parents. for I really fear that thou thinkest me utterly incorrigible for allowing thy letter to remain so long unanswered. I thank thee very much for the information it contained relative to Maria's health altho' I had at the time of its receipt received much later & more satisfactory accounts, but it is now some time since we had any news from Boston & are still desirous of knowing how she is at present. The weather has been warmer than I have felt it for some years & if it has been so where Maria is, I fear it will affect her unfavorably.

I doubt not that you all suffered greatly on account of her illness but I can rejoice that in the midst of the furnace thou wast enabled to trust the Lord, tho' his providence looked so dark & mysterious. When passing thro' such dispensations of trial, I have felt that nothing else could have taught me the power of God to sustain & that it was worth while to be afflicted, perplexed & distressed in order to know by experience how great are his faithfulness & power.

I do not know why some should have feared that M- never would recover entirely her mental powers, for brain fever always produces delirium & no anxiety of this kind is felt about individuals ordinarily, & I trust by this time, there is unquestionable evidence to the contrary.

I thank thee also for thy account of the M & E Convention in reference to the Woman Question - Like all other truth, when brought out practically, it is causing deep searchings of heart & revealing the secrets of the soul. I believe this can no more be driven back from the field of investigation than the doctrine of Human right, of which it is a part, & a very important part. And M & E will be the battle ground, for she is most certainly the moral light house of our Nation. Perhaps it was all for the best that Abby had to stand alone. I know how strengthening it is to feel that we have no arm of flesh to lean on, & for her sake I rejoice in her loneliness. We have heard that she spoke so frequently in the Convention as really to injure the cause whose representative was there was, in deed that she made both herself & it ridiculous - Now I don't believe this, but should like to hear how often she spoke to Resolutions &c - in all. & what effect was produced on the minds of those with whom thou hast conversed. I find she is about relinquishing her school & going to Mulberry. I cannot help hoping she will yet come out as a lecturer in the cause of the poor slave. Such practical advocacy of the rights of woman are worth every thing to every reform, at least, so I believe.

Has unity of spirit been restored to the Female Society in Boston? I long to hear of your striving together in the faith of Abolition as you once did - What plans are you pursuing this year. What are you doing with your funds?

I thank thee for the kind interest thou hast expressed in our private affairs - Our house was not ready for us, & as there was no comfortable boarding house at Fort Lee, we had to come into it some days before the workman left it, & then to leave it, all in confusion in order to fulfil our engagement at Manlius. Indeed, we have just got to rights now, & enjoy it the more, because we have had very little help in any way. Our

house is small but new & neat & comfortable, & the situation a charming one, commanding a view of the Hudson with her trading vessels & steam boats on the east, & the Palisades on the west. We keep no help & therefore are filling up "the appropriate sphere of woman" to admiration, in the kitchen with baking pans & pots & steamers &c & in the parlor & chamber with the broom & the duster. Indeed I think our enemies will rejoice, could they only look in upon us from day to day & see us boiling in domestic life, instead of lecturing to promiscuous audiences. Now I do verily believe that we are thus doing as much for the cause of woman as we did by public speaking. For it is absolutely necessary that we should show that we are not confined as domestic characters, but so far from it. as soon as duty call us home, we can & do rejoice in the release from public service, & are as anxious to make good bread as we ever were to deliver a good lecture. Our ignorance & inexperience often leads to mistakes & failures in the cooking department, but to Theodore's contented & cheerful mind, every thing is good & home is delightful. We all like doing without a girl very much indeed, ^{we find} for that it is very sweet to serve one another in love, each bearing a part of the burden, & so by a division of labor, rendering it comparatively easy to get along. But a little more experience will enable us to save much anxiety, time & labor, so that we are looking forward to a much easier time than we have yet had.

Wm Chace & Saml Southard are the only visitors we have yet had, indeed until we learn to cook better, I cannot for the sake of my friends ask them to come & see us - but if perseverance will teach me I mean to learn this mystery of housewifery as far as the Graham system will admit. We live in great retirement here, for as yet we have not had time to go even among our neighbors -

Ms. A. 9. 2 v. 10 p. 38

myself have or would lay a straw in the way of Sisters return to Mass. should
she feel it her duty to do so, altho' we should feel as if one third of our lives had
been taken away should she leave us. Her health however I believe requires
her to be quiet at present & I rejoice that our house can afford her a resting place.
Please give my love to Friend Chapman & Mary, the Fullers, Sargents & other friends
whom kindness I gratefully remember. Theodore joins me in love & I remain
Thine - Angelina G. Weld

W

Attention of
Miss Parker

Anna M. Wilson -

Postage

Indorsing letter
from A. G. Wilson

Sister S & myself unite in love to Maria & thy other sister - do tell the
former that we should be very glad to receive a letter from her own hand.
Direct to the A. S. Office N. Y. for we have no Post Office here, tho' we
are about petitioning for one -
15th July 1848
This was written some days before I have been able to send it to the Office - In the
mean while Sister received a joint letter from M & thyself & we were very glad
to find she was well enough to write - Let me add that neither Theodore nor